

### **REMARKS**

Claims 1 and 16 have been amended. Claims 1-6 and 16 are currently pending in this application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the original and other claims in this and other applications. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in light of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-6 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over McCollum et al. (U.S. Patent No. 3,948,755) ("McCollum") in view of either Koizumi et al. (JP-2003-097290) ("Koizumi '290") or Koizumi et al. (JP-2003-090227) ("Koizumi '227"). This rejection is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully submit that it would not have been obvious to combine McCollum with either of Koizumi '290 or Koizumi '227. More specifically, one skilled in the art would not have used the reformed oil from McCollum in a gas turbine, such as that in Koizumi '290 or Koizumi '227.

Claims 1 and 16 have been amended to require production of "a reformed oil *suitable for said gas turbine*." Support for this amendment may be found in the specification beginning at page 2, line 12. The reformed oil of McCollum is not intended for use in a gas turbine. As admitted in the Office Action, McCollum does not disclose a gas turbine. Office Action, page 3. McCollum also does not suggest the use of the reformed gas obtained by the reaction of McCollum in a gas turbine. Applicants respectfully submit that the reformed oil of McCollum is not suitable for use in a gas turbine, as is required by claims 1 and 16.

The reformed oil, obtained as a result of the reaction of McCollum, is not of a high enough quality for use with a gas turbine. See, e.g., McCollum, Table 11. One skilled in the art would appreciate that a reformed oil with a high vanadium content would cause adverse affects on the turbine devices. These adverse affects occur because when a reformed oil with a high vanadium

content is burned and introduced into a gas turbine, there is the danger that the turbine blades, etc., are corroded due to the vanadium contained in the combustion gas.

In order to avoid these adverse affects, reformed oils for use in gas turbines should have a sufficiently small content of vanadium. As discussed in the present application, vanadium contents which are sufficiently small to avoid adverse affects on the gas turbine are on the order of 2 ppm or 0.1 ppm. Specification, page 10, lines 3-13. One skilled in the art would appreciate that the vanadium content present in the reformed oil of McCollum would be too high and would cause adverse affects if used within a gas turbine. Therefore, one skilled in the art would not have used the reformed oils obtained as a result of the reaction of McCollum within the gas turbines of Koizumi '290 or Koizumi '227.

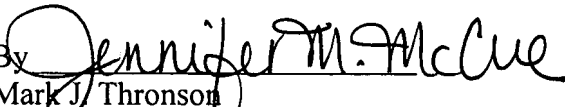
Additionally, claims 1 and 16 have been amended to clarify that the water is heated and pressurized "by utilizing the heat of exhaust gas from said gas turbine." Support for this amendment may be found in the specification beginning at page 17, line 14. The exhaust gas from the turbine is efficiently utilized for heating and pressurizing water and as a result, the system composed of a gas turbine and a reforming apparatus can attain the effect of enhanced thermal efficiency for the system as a whole.

Accordingly, claims 1 and 16 are patentable over the cited combination. Claims 2-6 depend from claim 1 and are allowable along with claim 1. Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 1-6 and 16 be withdrawn and the claims allowed.

In view of the above, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,

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